

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00

FBOE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02

OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01

OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05 SCS-03 /081 W

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FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1909

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L IZMIR 254

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, TU

SUBJECT: ATTACK ON CONSUL GENERAL'S RESIDENCE

REF: (A) STATE 181701; (B) IZMIR 263 (C) IZMIR 252

1. IN MEETING WITH CONGEN OFFICER ON AUGUST 3, ACTING IZMIR POLICE DIRECTOR YILMAZ CAPIN PROMISED FULL COOPERATION IN MEASURES TO PREVENT RECURRENCE OF ARMED ATTACKS ON CONSUL GENERAL'S RESIDENCE, AS WELL AS TO ENSURE SECURITY FOR OTHER MEMBERS OF AMERICAN COMMUNITY. HE STATED THAT, AS ALSO REPORTED IN REF (B), EFFECT-

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IVE AUGUST 2, THERE WERE TWO POLICE ON 24-HOUR DUTY IN FRONT OF THE RESIDENCE AND THREE IN THE REAR, A SLIGHT VARIATION FROM THE ARRANGEMENT DESCRIBED TO THE CONSUL GENERAL BY THE GOVERNOR, REFTTEL (C). CAPIN SAID THAT SECURITY OFFICIALS BELIEVED IT VERY LIKELY THAT THE RESIDENCE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A PRINCIPAL TARGET OF CHOICE FOR EXTREMIST ELEMENTS OF VARIOUS PERSUASIONS IN IZMIR. POLICE WOULD, THEREFORE, GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO ITS
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PROTECTION.

2. ACCORDING TO THE ACTING DIRECTOR, THE POLICE HAVE SOME THEORIES ON THE IDENTITY OF THE PERPETRATORS OF THE AUGUST 2 ATTACK, WHICH THEY ARE CURRENTLY PURSUING. HIS COMMENTS ON THE TYPE OF WEAPON AND AMMUNITION USED WERE IN LINE WITH THE RSO' REPORT SUBMITTED IN REF (B)

3. FOLLOWING ON OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS AND A REVIEW

OF OUR SECURITY PROBLEMS WITH RSO SORESENSEN, WE BELIEVE THAT THE STATIONING OF A FULL-TIME POLICE PATROL AT THE VULNERABLE REAR SIDE FROM WHICH ALL PREVIOUS ATTACKS HAVE COME PROVIDES A STRONG DETERRENT TO ATTACKS IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. WE CAN EXPECT VIGILANCE ON THE PART OF THE POLICE FOR A WHILE. WHEN IT FLAGS, WE WILL CALL THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE GOVERNOR AND THE

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POLICE CHIEF.

4. THE NEXT STEP IS TO MAKE THE ROOMS FACING THE REAR STREET BULLET-PROOF. AS MENTIONED IN REFTTEL (B), WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE RSO AND DEPT/SY WE ARE SEEKING TO EXPEDITE INSTALLATION OF LEXAN GLASS REINFORCEMENT, AND IN THE INTERIM PLAN TO PUT IRON SHUTTERS ON THE BEDROOM WINDOWS.

5. THERE REMAINS THE BASIC QUESTION OF WHETHER IT IS DESIRABLE TO RETAIN, IN CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS BUILDING AS THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S RESIDENCE. WE HAVE DEBATED THIS QUESTION FROM TIME TO TIME, AND THE LAST INSPECTION REPORT RECOMMENDED MOVEMENT TO PERHAPS AN APARTMENT IN THE CENTER OF TOWN. I HAVE LOOKED AT VARIOUS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES, BUT FRANKLY WITH SOME RELUCTANCE BECAUSE THE PRESENT RESIDENCE IS WITHAL A HANDSOME AND COMFORTABLE BUILDING, IS EXCELLENT FOR REPRESENTATION , AND HAS OTHER ADVANTAGES. NEVERTHELESS, IN A CITY WHERE EVEN THE MOST AFFLUENT HAVE LONG PREFERRED TO LIVE INCONSPICUOUSLY IN APART-
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MENTS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA, THE RESIDENCE FROM THE TIME OF ITS CONSTRUCTION IN 1962 HAS BEEN AN OBJECT OF EXCEPTIONAL INTEREST. IN AN UNSETTLED POLITICAL CLIMATE IT IS A FAIRLY LIKELY TARGET FOR TERRORISTS. OTHER DISADVANTAGES INCLUDE INCREASING DIFFICULTY OF

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ACCESS BECAUSE OF GROWING TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

6. TOGETHER WITH EMBASSY ANKARA, WE WILL WEIGH THE PROS AND CONS OF THIS QUESTION. IN THE MEANTIME THE MEASURES WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN SHOULD PROVIDE REASONABLE PROTECTION. WE HAVE ALSO REVIEWED THE SECURITY OF THE CONSULATE GENERAL OFFICES WITH THE RSO, AT HIS SUGGESTION, WE PLAN TO IMPROVE VISITOR ACCESS CONTROL BY INSTALLING ELECTRONIC DOOR LATCHES IN THE ENTRYWAY.

MOFFETT

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